

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A golf training apparatus for practicing straight hits, comprising an upright rack; a rod provided on said rack and aligned substantially horizontally and parallel to a desired hitting direction, said rod being arranged at a distance to said rack such that a golf club is swingable through underneath said rod; and further comprising an extension which is connected with said rod and said rack and extends between said rod and said rack so as to hold said rod at ~~at the~~ distance to said rack.

Claim 2 cancelled.

3. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said rod is disposed substantially at a height of a forearm of a golfer.

4. (Currently amended) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said rod is formed as an inflatable foil hose such that touching of said inflatable foil hose by a golfer is harmless and not accomplished by a risk of injuries.

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5. (Currently amended) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 4, and further comprising an extension which holds said rod at said distance to said rack, said extension being also formed as an inflatable foil hose such that touching of said inflatable foil hose of said extension also in harmless and not accompanied by a risk of injuries.

6. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 4; and further comprising an air pump arranged at said rack for inflating said inflatable foil hose.

7. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein said air pump is formed as a manually operatable air pump.

8. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said rack is adjustable in height.

9. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein said extension is arranged extendably on said rack.

10. (original) A golf training apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said rod and said rack are dismountable from one another.

11. (Currently amended) A golf training apparatus for practicing straight hits, comprising:

an upright rack made of a rigid material; and  
~~an inflatable~~ rod provided on said upright rack and aligned substantially horizontally and parallel to a desired hitting direction, said ~~inflatable~~ rod being arranged at a distance to said upright rack such that a golf club is swingable through underneath said inflatable rod, and while said rack being rigid said rod being inflatable such that touching said inflatable rod by a golfer is harmless and not accompanied by a risk of injuries.

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